

REAR ADMIRAL MYRON G. TURNER, DENTAL CORPS,
UNITED STATES NAVY, RETIRED

Myron George Turner was born in McArthur, Ohio, on April 4, 1913, son of George W. and Lura (Howell) Turner. He had pre-dental training at Ohio State University at Columbus, and in 1936 received the degree of Doctor of Dental Surgery from the Dental College of that University. While attending Ohio State, he was a member of the Officers Training Corps Unit and upon graduation was commissioned a First Lieutenant in the Dental Corps of the U. S. Army. After serving his internship at Eastman Clinic, Rochester, New York, he was engaged in the private practice of dentistry. Commissioned Lieutenant (junior grade) in the Dental Corps of the U. S. Navy on August 13, 1938, he subsequently advanced in rank to that of Rear Admiral, to date from July 1, 1965.

After receiving his commission in 1938, he had indoctrination at the Naval Dental School, Washington, D. C., until January 1939, then was assigned as Assistant Dental Officer at the Naval Air Station, Pensacola, Florida. In August 1940 he joined the FIFTH Medical Company, FIRST Medical Battalion, Fleet Marine Force and in April 1941 reported for duty with "A" Company, FIRST Medical Battalion, FIRST Marine Division, Fleet Marine Force. He transferred in August 1941 to Headquarters Company, FIRST Marine Division, Fleet Marine Force, where he remained until May 1943. He is entitled to the Ribbon for and a facsimile of the Presidential Unit Citation awarded the FIRST Marine Division, Reinforced, for outstanding services at Guadalcanal during the period August 7 to December 9, 1942.

Following instruction in prosthetics at the Naval Dental School, National Naval Medical Center, Bethesda, Maryland, he reported in September 1943 as Assistant Dental Officer at the Naval Dispensary, Navy Department, Washington, D. C. In November 1945 he joined the USS TICONDEROGA (CV-14) as Senior Dental Officer and from June 1946 to May 1947 continued duty afloat as Senior Dental Officer of the USS BUSHNELL (AS-15). He was next Assistant Dental Officer at the U. S. Naval Academy, Annapolis, Maryland, and in May 1951 became District Dental Officer at Headquarters, Tenth Naval District, San Juan, Puerto Rico.

He had postgraduate instruction in prosthetics at Ohio State University, Columbus, from September 1953 to June 1954, after which he had duty as Prosthetic Officer at the Naval Air Station, North Island, San Diego, California. While there, he also served as Senior Dental Officer at the Naval Station, North Island; Staff Dental Officer, Commander Naval Bases, Eleventh Naval District, and Force Dental Officer, Commander, Naval Air Force, Pacific Fleet. In June 1960 he returned to the Naval Dental School, National Naval Medical Center,

Bethesda, where he served as Executive Officer until January 1963, then reported as Director of the Dental Department at the Naval Administrative Command, Naval Training Center, Great Lakes, Illinois. In June 1966 he became Depot Dental Officer at the Marine Corps Recruit Depot, San Diego, California and "for outstanding performance of duty...(in that capacity) from July 1966 to July 1968..." he was awarded the Navy Commendation Medal. The citation further states in part:

"Captain Turner was responsible for the supervision and coordination of the staff of dental officers and enlisted personnel of the Dental Clinic which performed in excess of 200,000 treatments and services to dental patients. He was directly responsible for the reorganization of the Preventive Dentistry Section which resulted in making four additional units available for prosthetic treatment. (He) implemented a volunteer dental assistance program utilizing American Red Cross Volunteers, students from San Diego College of Medical and Dental Assistants, and Mesa Junior College...Captain Turner devoted approximately 50 per cent of his time performing treatments within the prosthetic section and still ensured continuous high performance of his staff through his executive management ability..."

In July 1968 he reported as Inspector General, Dental and Assistant Chief of Dental Division, Bureau of Medicine and Surgery and in April 1970 assumed duty as Director of Dental Activities in the Eleventh Naval District, headquartered in San Diego, California. In March 1971 he became Commanding Officer of the Naval Dental Center, with additional duty as Director of Dental Activities, Eleventh Naval District and Staff Dental Officer Naval Base, San Diego, California. He was awarded the Meritorious Service Medal and cited in part as follows:

"For outstanding meritorious service...from April 1970 to March 1973. Throughout this period, Rear Admiral Turner consistently displayed extraordinary professional skill and dynamic leadership in carrying out his responsibilities...Through his initiative and by his direction, dental support for personnel of the Eleventh Naval District and for the Pacific Fleet units in the area was greatly enhanced and dental health readiness thereby improved..."

On April 1, 1973 he was transferred to the Retired List of the U. S. Navy.

In addition to the Meritorious Service Medal, the Navy Commendation Medal and the Presidential Unit Citation Ribbon, Rear Admiral Turner has the American Defense Service Medal, Base Clasp; American Campaign Medal; Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal; World War II Victory Medal; Navy Occupation Service Medal, Asia Clasp; and the National Defense Service Medal with bronze star.

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His official home address is 108 Sixteenth Avenue, Columbus, Ohio. He is married to the former Kathleen Trainer of McArthur, Ohio, and they have two sons, Jeffrey B. and Jonathan G. Turner.

Dr. Turner is a member of the American Dental Association and Xi Psi Phi, Kappa Chapter, professional dental fraternity. He is a Fellow of the American College of Dentists; and a member of the American Association for the Advancement of Science; Carl O. Boucher Prosthodontia Conference; American Prosthodontia Society; and the American Board of Prosthodontists.

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